



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending lower for next weeks' trading. Trade sentiment was steady to weak, mostly weak. Retail demand was mixed, mostly slow to fair. Food service was slightly better but began to decline. Supplies were more than sufficient and although heavily discounted, were still hard to place. Saturday schedules were planned to control weight problems and make up for time lost during last week's hurricane. In the parts structure, wings had strongest movement with supplies well cleared. Availability of the remaining items continued to exceed the light demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavier than desired.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 09/27-10/02/99 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	40.00-44.00	30.00-62.75	44.48	25
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	64.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	65.00	—		
New York	48.00-51.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	65.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	54.00-58.00	31.00-60.50	57.98	82

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 60.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
528	45.00-64.00	59.75
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	167.00	4,006
BREASTS - WHOLE	82.00	1,715
THIGH MEAT - B/S	59.00	558
LEG QUARTERS	21.00	7,854
WINGS	57.00	2,696

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

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SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was weak. Demand was almost nonexistent with extreme discounting having no positive effect on movement. Supplies were more than sufficient for needs. Some plants planned Saturday schedules mainly to compensate for days lost during last week's hurricane or to control bird sizes. In the parts structure, wings were in close balance to tight with strong movement, but all other items were at least adequate with slow movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was weak. Preliminary majority prices 1 cent lower than last week. Offerings remained ample. Steep discounts reported, particularly on WOGs. Buying interest was light. Retailer demand was moderate overall. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was weak on breasts with balance of parts about steady.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority price into Chicago was down 3 cents and TFEWR elsewhere from last Monday's final majorities. Trade sentiment in a full range, steady to weak. Offers of additional whole birds and heavy WOGS readily available. Retail demand mostly slow to instances fairly good. Distributive movement mixed and slowing. Floor stocks adequate with sizes desirable. Supplies of breast items adequate to ample, wings and leg quarters adequate. Trade sentiment fully steady on wings, about steady on leg quarters and weak on breast items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained slow. Offerings were sharply discounted with trading difficult to consummate as customers were few and far between. Retail and distributive movement continued to struggle as usual for the latter part of the month. The market tone was extremely weak. In the parts market, difficulty in placing attractively priced breast items continued to depress the market. Aside from wings, other items were also having a hard time finding a home.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light and disappointing. Seller offerings were readily available and difficult to place, particularly on the heavier sizes. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were mostly in a range of desirable to heavier than desired. Processing schedules varied, but were generally heavy as some plants realigned schedules disrupted by last weeks hurricane, and others sought to keep weights in check. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 51 to 63 cents. Trade sentiment was weak. Wings continued to clear well. Most other items were noted as in excess of current buyer interest.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	51-72
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	56.30
NO. OF BOXES	7,067
CUMULATIVE	09/20/99-09/24/99 57.00
	09/21/98-09/25/98 70.53
NO. OF BOXES	09/20/99-09/24/99 39,007
	09/21/98-09/25/98 34,229

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

SEP 23, 1999

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

SEP 24, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	735	145.00-194.00	145-155	155.77	745	130.00-194.00	140-150	151.93	3,782	154.91
TENDERLOINS	96	155.00-195.00	-	164.17	144	150.00-200.00	-	185.59	620	172.34
BREAST - LINE RUN	154	71.00-90.00	72-75	74.74	154	72.00-90.00	72-75	75.00	700	76.11
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				453	52.40
LEGS	89	29.50-33.00	-	29.85	89	28.00-33.00	28-29	28.51	436	30.32
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	508	14.00-19.00	15-16	15.77	508	14.00-19.00	15-16	16.05	2,364	16.21
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,456	17.50-22.50	18-20	19.80	1,576	17.50-22.50	18-19	19.29	7,416	19.71
WINGS (WHOLE)	111	55.00-57.00	55-56	56.18	111	51.00-57.00	-	54.74	831	53.44
WINGS (CUT)	486	60.00-76.00	63-66	66.30	491	63.00-76.00	64-66	66.90	2,362	65.11
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				38	35.53
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				38	35.53
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				76	50.00-68.00	-	58.13	321	55.41

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
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TRADING FOR SEP 23, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TRADING FOR SEP 24, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S		TODAY'S		5-DAY
RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
32.50 - 39.50	34.94	29.50 - 34.00	31.53	34.18

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was floundering as traders attempted to take advantage of the very attractive offering prices, but had a difficult time in finding buyers. Movement through most retail and distributive channels continued to reflect a typical latter part of the month pace. The market tone was generally weak on all but wings.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

SEP 24, 1999
WEEKLY

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	CURRENT NEG		WTD	WTD	
	TRADING*	AVG**		TRADING*	AVG**		AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135-150	154.98	384,720	135-150	150.93	492,920	156.88	2,222,170
TENDERLOINS	150-155	155.03	41,240	150-155	155.10	30,200	154.62	209,840
BREAST - WITH RIBS	67-68	79.74	192,680	62-63	78.40	246,880	80.63	1,075,960
BREAST - LINE RUN	67	69.04	124,200	62	60.06	208,000	68.76	741,520
LEGS	28-29	31.47	259,800	31	53	221,920	33.40	994,440
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	19.42	320,926	19	10	338,350	20.25	1,528,245
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	35.59	87,080	35	04	80,920	34.95	419,770
THIGHS	18-19	32.35	48,360	32	31	42,360	30.87	266,238
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.08	30,320	73	06	16,760	71.04	143,120
WINGS (WHOLE)	57-58	64.86	180,760	65	17	159,480	64.24	802,360
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.89	25,800	12	29	19,520	12.12	106,120
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	66.41	16,880	63	89	12,880	64.59	81,330
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.98	68,680	49	91	52,280	49.12	219,790

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG		AVG	
	09/24	09/23	09/22	09/21	09/22	09/21	09/17	09/15
ALA	4,348	3,887	3,898	3,826	5.19	5.15	4,469	5.15
ARK	6,019	5,206	5,224	5,039	4.91	4.91	6,248	4.89
DELMARVA	3,122	2,438	2,473	2,470	5.06	5.10	3,070	5.00
KY-LA-TN	1,948	1,786	1,806	1,670	4.38	4.43	2,224	4.35
MISS	3,404	2,854	2,781	2,755	4.95	4.99	3,402	4.99
NC	2,993	2,427	2,542	2,281	5.75	5.70	2,586	5.56
TEXAS	2,456	2,346	2,096	2,158	4.67	4.79	2,617	4.69
TOTAL	24,290	20,944	20,238	20,199	5.01	5.03	24,616	4.98
MON-FRI	106,376(A)						103,666(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 24-Sep and 25-Sep-99 is estimated to be 36,341,000 down 1.62 percent from a week ago and up 15.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 36,939,000; last year 31,417,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 25-Sep-99 is estimated to be 160,010,000 head up 5.0 percent from a week ago, and up 7.4 percent from a year ago (Last week 152,393,000 Last year 149,038,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	82-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	83-88
DUCKS	135
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 107
	ICE PACK 92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK 112
	ICE PACK 104
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK 98
	ICE PACK 91-92
DUCKS	149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Sep. 11, 1999 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----

Head	23,035	31,506	27,691
Avg Weight	3.89	4.77	6.06
% of total /1	28%	38%	34%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	31,385	37,317	27,135
Avg Weight	3.74	4.86	6.12
% of total /1	33%	39%	28%
Same week, yr ago /2	26,088	29,740	18,872
Avg Weight	3.75	4.84	6.18
% of total /1	35%	40%	25%
To date/1999	1,168,915	1,101,139	1,467,374
To date/1998	1,267,671	1,336,109	1,022,592

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 18-Sep-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	152,393(A)	2,014	1,484	3,498	454
AVGWT	4.87	3.40	8.04	5.37	6.96
LAST WEEK	135,122	1,583	1,368	2,951	413
YR AGO	148,765	1,863	1,240	3,103	391
AVGWT	4.68	3.56	8.00	5.33	6.36
TO-DATE/1999	5,606,642	78,122	51,119	129,241	16,321
TO-DATE/1998	5,396,061	77,071	46,581	123,652	16,725

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 151.7 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.2 million head or 2.5 million head more than or 102 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY-- DATE OF AUCTION SEP 21, 1999
PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE	RANGE
Banty Hens	1.00 - 2.75ea.	Pekin Ducks .50 - .62
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 5.75ea.	Pigeons 1.10 - 2.00ea.
Bunnies	1.50 - 5.00ea.	Pullets 4-6 .70 - .94
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.40 - .74	Rabbits 4-6 .70 - 1.02
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.50 - .82	Rabbits 7-11 .60 - .94
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.40 - .80	Red Fowl 4-4.5 .30 - .52
Doves	2.50 - 5.50ea.	Red Fowl 5-6 .40 - .72
Goats	50.00 - 80.00ea.	Silkie 2.50 - 3.50ea.
Guinea Pigs	3.00 - 6.25ea.	White Pigeons 2.00 - 2.75ea.
Leghorn Hens	.12 - .24	
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.90 - 1.08	
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.80 - .94	

Total Coops Sold 560

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 20-SEP-99
DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	134	139-140
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	67-68	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83	69-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was moderate. Some slaughter schedules were extended into Saturday due to larger sized birds. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15. PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 20-SEP-99

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
AUGUST	14 157.3	155.9	101	4.85
	21 155.9	155.5	100	4.81
	28 159.4	154.6	103	4.85
SEPTEMBER	4 157.9	152.7	103	4.86
	11 136.8	150.8	91	4.91
	18 154.2	151.7	102	4.87
YEAR TO DATE	5676.3	5638.5	101	
SEPTEMBER	25 153.2			
OCTOBER	2 151.8			

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 18-Sep-99 IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 3,202 HD, 16,266 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 688 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	9/25/99	9/18/99	%CHG	9/26/98	%CHG
Broilers	160,010	*152,393	+05	*149,038	+07
Cattle	717	727	-01	*679	+06
Hogs	2,029	1,981	+02	*1,987	+02
Under Federal Inspection					
* ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower. Demand was moderate but generally clearing the fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal. The undertone was cautious but mostly steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

25-26 MAJORITY

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

32-34.5 MAJORITY 32-34

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

25.5-29 MAJORITY 25.5-27

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

32.75-36.5 MAJORITY 35.25-36.5

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY**RANGE****MAJORITY**

Southeast Heavy TFEWR (1)

Southeast Heavy TFEWR (2)

f.o.b. plant TFEWR

South Central Heavy TFEWR (1)

LIGHT**RANGE****MAJORITY**

Eastern Light 0 (1)

Eastern Light TFEWR (2)

So. Central Light TFEWR (2)

No. Central Light TFEWR (1)

No. Central Light 0-.5 (2)

(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was slow for fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules were generally normal. Undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was light and unaggressive for fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was at best steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices were unchanged. Trading and demand was light with offerings of light fowl fully adequate to ample. Processors worked full schedules and many producers looked to alternative sources for spent hens. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants schedules full. Offerings ample.